

U.S. Serial No. 09/884,638  
Prosecution Docket No. 2601.102  
Response of July 2, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend paragraph [033] as follows:

[033] Each interlock is comprised of a vertically projecting male strip 45 and a laterally disposed female recess or slot 46. The recess 46 being a vertically disposed open-sided channel that mates with a male strip 45 of another tile 10-1, Figure 5, to effect the interlock. The strip 45 is spaced laterally inwardly from the straight edges of the top surface 13 by its inwardly inclined edge 48[.], [The] thereby concealing the interlocks under the top surface 13. The recess 46 adjoins the strip 45 by way of a common, inwardly inclined surface 49, Fig. 5, providing mutually resilient catch structures that can be deflected to snap into mating relationship during installation. The open sides of its interlocks 42 and 43 on opposite respective sides and edges of the base face in opposite directions; interlock 42 opening downwardly and interlock 43 opening upwardly. Alternatively, opening 42 could open upwardly and interlock 43 downwardly.

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